

your questions separately. Mr. Robinson, and not lump them up in that way. That is not the way to get at the real facts.

Mr. Robinson—I prefer to put the question in that way, my Lord, and the answer is Yes or No.

His Lordship—I will not allow questions to be lumped in that sort of way. It is not calculated to elicit the truth, and I am bound to see, so far as I can, that that is done.

Mr. Robinson—I either want it put that way or not at all, my Lord.

His Lordship—Then I will not allow it. I won't have questions rolled up in that absurd way. They confuse the witness. You must divide your questions into some form that will allow of their being answered in a definite categorical way.

Mr. Robinson—My Lord, the answer to that question is Yes or No.

His Lordship—It is not; there are three distinct answers each of which may require a long explanation.

Mr. Robinson—I submit that the answer is Yes or No, my Lord.

His Lordship—That will do now; go on, and put your questions in a less confusing way.

Mr. Robinson bowed and passed over the question.

The cross-examination of this, the second witness, was concluded shortly after five o'clock, and the case was adjourned again till to-morrow morning at half-past ten.

Mr. Robinson made an application for the liberation of the fourth prisoner on bail, but his Lordship said he could not see his way to accede to the application. He did not think it was the practice to set a prisoner on bail during the progress of a trial on such a charge as this.

THE CHARGE AGAINST POLICE SERGEANT DUNCAN.

Evidence was heard by Mr. Pollock in the Police Court to-day in connection with the charge of misconduct as a police constable against Police Sergeant Duncan. Mr. Caldwell appeared for the defence. Mr. Wardell asked his witness if he could tell him what was the specific charge against the defendant?

Mr. Pollock said the charge as he had it at present was misconduct as a police constable, but he thought it desirable that a specific charge should be made before he proceeded with the case.

Captain Deane, to whom the question was referred, said the charge was misconduct as a police constable.

Mr. Pollock—I must have a more definite charge than that.

Captain Deane—The nature of the charge has appeared from the evidence. That is all that is necessary.

Mr. Caldwell—You might just as well charge a man with larceny and not say what he has stolen. I submit that the words "misconduct as a police constable" should be supplemented by a charge.

I think the defendant has a right to know what he is charged with.

Mr. Pollock—I certainly think there ought to be something more.

Captain Deane—I submit that nothing more is necessary under the Ordinance.

Mr. Caldwell—But the question is, a police constable is merely the general charge.

Mr. Pollock—There must certainly be a more specific charge made with reference to some particular act.

Captain Deane—I submit that your Worship has to form the final charge from the evidence.

Mr. Caldwell—The question is, a police constable is merely the general charge.

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dividing 292 from 294 owing to a wooden partition.

The warrant issued to Sergeant Duncan, to enter house No. 292, was then put in. Sergeant Duncan's morning report and a subsequent fuller report on the occurrence were also put in.

Mr. Caldwell, in giving an outline of the defence, said it would be for the defendant to show that he was justified in being present in house No. 292, and that he was not a trespasser.

Mr. Caldwell said that he would go to show that house No. 292 was let to a certain man who used the basement and first floors; that there was no communication between the first and second floors; that the former, and until very recently, the latter, were used as a workshop.

Mr. Caldwell said that the two openings, that were the constant and permanent means of access to the second floor of 292, and that in point of fact the same conditions existed now with the exception that the two openings had been hastily bricked up and that there was a partition in front of these openings which would prevent anybody on arriving at the top of the staircase from seeing that the openings were closed up. If he was able to substantiate what he had stated, he (Mr. Caldwell) submitted that the defendant, in the performance of his duty to get to 292, was fully justified in going up the staircase of 292, that being the only means of communication with the top floor of 292. He would call Mr. Denison, an architect in practice in the colony, who would explain to his Worship the construction of the house.

Mr. Caldwell said—I am a civil engineer. I know houses numbers 292 and 294 Queen's Road West. I have been in both. I was there this morning. No. 292 is a corner house. The basement is used as a shop with a rice-powderers place at the back. The first floor is used as a workshop. These two floors seem to belong to one business. There is a staircase from the basement to the first floor. As a rule the staircase in Chinese houses begins on one side of the shop front by a separate door and gives access to all the floors except the ground floor. The staircase from the back of the shop, the entrance being on the side street. In the case of house 292, Queen's Road West, the staircase does not comply with either of these conditions. The bottom of the staircase is in the shop, and the top of the staircase is in the house. There is no communication with the bottom of the staircase except through the shop. That staircase goes up to the first floor, and from there there is no communication with the second floor. I saw traces of a former staircase between the first and second floors. The well had been filled up with joists and planking. I went into house 294 and ascended to the second floor. As soon as I arrived at the top of the staircase I saw a wooden partition about 8 or 9 feet high, which is at right angles to the party wall between Nos. 292 and 294. Part of the wall was built in the partition was another of the same height. In consequence of these partitions only the upper portion of the party wall is visible from the top of the stairs. I noticed a doorway in the party wall which had been newly filled up with a brickwork three or four feet high. I saw a doorway in the party wall which had been newly filled up with a brickwork three or four feet high. The brickwork could have been very easily pushed through. Judging from the materials I should say the work had been done about three weeks. I noticed new papers pasted over a portion of the old brickwork which must have been pasted on soon after the work was done. I am able positively to state that the new brickwork had been filled in after the newspapers had been stuck on. "One of the newspapers was an American paper dated 24th June. The only way of entering the top floor of 292 that I could see was a slight gap in the roof which was fastened by a padlock. Through the communication between the first and second floor of 292 to be cut off, I should say the proper way to get to the top floor of 292 would be by the staircase of 294, and in order to do so it would be necessary to cross the top floor of 294.

The case was remanded till the 27th inst. at 10 a.m.

Peking, Sept. 10.

Towards the end of August our weather became very warm again, stuffy and disagreeable. We have had in consequence more rain than at this season every where.

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translated foreign scientific books. These works must have an undoubted good effect in developing the youthful Imperial mind, and forming fitting introductions to the study of Western learning and the introduction of Western civilisation. We, here, are proud that three such names as Hart, Martin and Edkins should be so intimately associated with this new and promising departure.

Mr. Oliver is preparing to start a new class in Natural Philosophy, and is busy unpacking costly apparatus, and Mr. Ready from Hankow has also arrived to take up the English department, or, as was said, to take up the examination stalls on the 13th. Mr. Hillier and family have arrived at the British Legation from England via Canada.

The Grand Duke before his departure visited the Temple of Heaven, but did not receive the Emperor. Sir Robert's band which was paralysed by the desertion of some of the musicians, is, we hear to be reinforced by others from Tientsin, and a young band of some thirteen Manchus is being trained.

We have had a fair amount of rain already—amounting for the year to some 18 inches; one heavy fall was 7 inches in twenty-four hours, but the weather is hot in the daytime.—N.C. Daily News Correspondent.

THE OCEANIC IN COLLISION.
THE "CITY OF QUEENSTOWN" SUNK AND SEVERAL LIVES LOST.

San Francisco, August 26th.—The steamer Oceanic, from China and Japan, collided with the British City of Queenstown, on the morning of the 24th inst. at the Golden Gate. The Oceanic had just sailed with over 700 passengers for Europe, and the City of Queenstown was on her way to San Francisco.

Later.—The City of Queenstown, commanded by Captain Wallace, left her berth at 9 o'clock this morning. As she neared the Presidio Reservation, which is just inside the Golden Gate Straits, the atmosphere became very thick, and objects were scarcely distinguishable at close range.

A vessel was noticed directly in front of the Oceanic, bearing right down upon her. Before any attempt on the part of the Oceanic's officers could be made to change her course and avert a disaster a terrific crash was heard and she began to sink. Immediately several passengers leaped into the water in the hopes of making the shore.

The vessel which had given the Oceanic the death-blow was the Oceanic, from the Orient, with 80 cabin passengers and 100 Chinese. Boats were speedily lowered, and the crew of the Oceanic, who had been on board, were rescued by the boats and the bay.

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O. S. Arthur, the purser of the Oceanic, was writing in his cabin when crossed by the sharp blast of the whistle, and sprang on deck just as the collision took place. He says the scenes upon the deck of the Oceanic were perfectly heart-rending. The greatest confusion prevailed and undoubtedly many lives were lost from this cause. The boats of the Oceanic were in the water within a couple of minutes, while life-buoys were thrown overboard to those already struggling in the water. Scarcely five minutes elapsed from the time of the collision until the Oceanic turned over like a box and sank, the boilers exploding when the water reached the fires.

Captain Wallace of the Oceanic called at the British Consulate and requested that a Court of Enquiry be held to ascertain the cause of the disaster so far as his vessel was concerned. Vice-Consul Macdonald, who was on vacation leave, has assented to the request and ordered that a Court be held next Monday morning at 10.30 o'clock. Two masters of British vessels in port will, with Mr. Mason as presiding officer, constitute the court. The testimony will be taken down and the decision reached after the testimony is closed. Captain Wallace of the City of Queenstown called at the office of the Government Inspectors to-day, but made no statement beyond expressing his willingness for examination.

An investigation will be held on the 30th inst. at 10.30 o'clock, and the following by the Inspectors. The Pilot Commissioners will hold no investigation at present relative to Pilot Meyer's responsibility in the matter. The presiding officer of the Board is out of town, as well as the two other commissioners.

THE PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 23.—The President to-day sent the following message to Congress: "To the Congress: The rejection by the Senate of the treaty lately negotiated for the settlement and adjustment of the differences existing between the United States and Great Britain concerning the rights and privileges of American fishermen in the waters adjacent to Canada, and the condition to which the pending question is thus remitted. The treaty upon this subject concluded in 1818, through disagreements as to the meaning of its terms, has become a source of constant friction and trouble. Our citizens engaged in fishing enterprises in the waters adjacent to Canada have been subjected to numerous vexatious interferences and annoyances, their vessels have been seized upon pretexts which appeared to be entirely inadmissible, and they have been otherwise treated by the Canadian authorities in a manner which has been justly and properly protested by Great Britain and Canada by the claim that the treaty of 1818 permitted it, and upon the ground that it was necessary to the proper protection of Canadian interests. We deny that the treaty of 1818 permitted it, and we further maintain that, aside from any treaty, the restraints of a disputed interpretation, the relative positions of the United States and Canada as near neighbors, the growth of our joint commerce, the development and the prosperity of both countries, and the consideration of the rights of

